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Edmonton metro



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MARCH 4-6, 2016

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metroNEWS



Cars fill every spot at the Century Park LRT station Park and Ride on Thursday. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Requests for income support up

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Alberta Works seeing 'very high demand' for its services



The province is seeing more and more people looking for emergency income support, leading to lineups at many Alberta Works offices.

Statistics released by the department show an increase of 7.8 per cent in visits to offices in January over the same time a year prior, and an increase of 9.4 per cent in December over December 2014.

Alberta Works provides emer-

gency assistance to people who are out of work to deal with necessities like housing and food.

The government's overall caseload for people on income support climbed nearly 20 per cent last year.

Human Services Minister Irfan Sabir said it's an unfortunate situation that they hope to address.

"It's pretty concerning and we are experiencing very high demand ... particularly in Calgary and Edmonton," said Sabir.

Sabir said the department has turned its phone line into a 24/7 operation and has added staff to the office, while also looking at increased operating hours.

"We're committed to ensuring that Albertans are receiving the support they need during these challenging times," he said.

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GRANTS

NDP jobs program reviewed



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

The NDP government is making sure its job grants actually do their job, according to Premier Rachel Notley.

The \$178-million jobs creation plan — which promised to create up to 27,000 jobs by reimbursing employers up to 10 per cent of a new hire's salary, to a maximum of \$5,000 — has been in limbo.

On Monday, economic development and trade spokeswoman Marion Nader couldn't confirm that the program is moving forward, but added it won't be cut.

Notley said the government is examining how likely it is the program will promote job creation. The government is also evaluating how it should best use the program's budgeted money, she said, adding the committed dollars must be used wisely, given the current price of oil doesn't meet the government's October 2015 projections.

Wildrose jobs critic Grant Hunter slammed the program, adding the NDP should scrap it.

Alternatively, Hunter said the government should lower the small business tax rate by one per cent — the reduction would help small businesses hire more people.

Notley said the government will have more details on the plan when the government rolls out the budget in April.

Comedy scene grows up

ENTERTAINMENT

Underdog tapes new comedy album, Empress marks two years



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's independent comedy scene seems to be hitting its stride as two of the most popular rooms celebrate major milestones this week.

A handful of the city's rising comics took to the stage in the basement of the Black Dog pub on Whyte for the aptly named Underdog show Thursday to tape a new comedy album produced by Toronto-based Comedy Records.

Meanwhile, the Empress Comedy Night is prepping for its two-year anniversary show on Sunday.

It's a good time to be an independent comedy show, says standup comic Clare Belford, performing in both shows. She got started in Edmonton and helped found the Empress show before moving to Toronto, but maintains ties to Edmonton's growing community.

She chalks recent success up partly to trend ("I feel like comedy has gotten really hip in the last little while," she says) and partly to evolution of the local scene; both shows have been successful at attracting a newer, more progressive crowd.

"The first show I ever did was full of my friends, to be



“There's this really wonderful, artsy comedy scene here.” Clare Belford

Clare Belford is a standup comic in town for shows at the Underdog and the Empress. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

fair," she said of her first try at the mike three years ago, "but most of the time shows were very sparsely attended, or people didn't realize there was going to be a show."

Having a go at comedy in Alberta has always required the work ethic to tour the smaller venues scattered across the province, she says, but that's recently combined with a grow-

ing art scene in Edmonton.

"I think more and more these two scenes are starting to meet in the middle," Belford says, "There's this really wonderful, artsy comedy scene here."

That's part of the reason why Comedy Records came to document the Underdog show, in one of their first forays into western Canada. The

weekly standup show has been bringing local funny people to the basement of the Black Dog for almost three years — label head Barry Taylor calls it one of the best independent shows in Canada.

"It's this really big show that has this big vibe, and it's a good snapshot of what's going on with the Edmonton comedy scene."

Down the street at the Empress, show co-organizer Carina Morton says she's also seen an uptick in interest.

"It probably comes from hanging out in the same places, and funny people get to know each other and appreciate other people's art," she says.

"It might surprise people how many comedians there are and how strong they are."



A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

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RODEOS

CFR eyes Calgary as venue

Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

As a professional bull rider, Scott Schiffrer has competed in two of Canada's biggest rodeo events 15 times: the Calgary Stampede rodeo and the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) — one in Calgary and one in Edmonton.

But, now, there's talk about the Scotiabank Saddledome being home to both.

On Wednesday, the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) announced that it might leave Edmonton after the board of directors unanimously voted down a proposal submitted by the Oilers Entertainment Group and the City of Edmonton.

"The primary thing is to put (the CFR) where the fans can get to it," said Schiffrer. "I don't necessarily want to see it leave Edmonton, but, if it has to, Calgary's a great city for it."

90K

The CFR, Canada's largest indoor rodeo, attracts 90,000 visitors a year.

Dan Eddy, general manager for the CPRA, said that they wanted "what's fair" for their members.

Eddy said that they're seriously considering venues in "about six" different cities.

Kurt Kadatz, spokesperson for the Calgary Stampede, agreed with Schiffrer, saying that he's "hoping for a win-win solution for the CFR to stay in Edmonton."

"We feel that more rodeos in more cities builds more rodeo fans," he continued. "We think the Edmonton and the CFR go together just as well as Calgary and the Stampede."



The 240 parking spots available at Century Park are full, with a lengthy waiting list of people prepared to pay the monthly fee to secure a space of their own. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Increase park and ride spaces: Group

TRANSPORTATION

Transit adviser says move will trim city's waiting list

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

With 3,500 people on a waiting list for just one of Edmonton's park and ride lots, council should consider making more spaces available for paid monthly users, argues an advisory group to the city's transit system.

Currently a portion of spots at some park and ride locations are

offered as monthly paid parking for \$42, but the demand exceeds the supply in many cases with 3,500 people on a waiting list for spots at Century Park.

Making sure there's room for everyone will mean making parking spots more expensive and encouraging more people to take the bus to the LRT station, argues the city's transportation advisory board in a new report going to council next week.

"There is a clear need for an increase in supply. With the opening of the Metro line LRT ridership has increased and will create additional demand for Park and Ride in the northern sections of the transit system," reads the report from the volunteer group. "Converting more stalls to paid reserved parking will curb excess

demand."

The city last looked at the issue in 2010 and the board is recommending council review the issue again.

Coun. Michael Walters said he's prepared to consider the issue, but he's not convinced about the need for more paid spots.

Our overall goal is to make transit more affordable and not more expensive. Coun. Michael Walters

"Our overall goal is to make transit more affordable and not more expensive so we have to weigh all those things," he said.

Separately from the advisory group's report, city staff are also recommending the rules around

where park and ride lots can go be relaxed. Currently, city policy restricts them to spots away from the core of the city.

Natalie Lazurko, a director in the city's planning department, said the rules can make it difficult to pursue creative solutions.

"It's very prescriptive and it's very detailed," she said.

Walters said he's open to some changes, but he doesn't want to see too many park and ride lots in the centre of the city.

"Too much park and ride takes up valuable land, which helps us meet our infill targets."

CRIME

Police arrest 3 in home invasion

Sanam Islam
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton Police have arrested three people in connection with a home invasion that left one man seriously injured with a gunshot wound Monday.

"We have some information that leads us to believe that the suspects had fair knowledge of the residence. Drugs were involved but we don't know of any gang-related associations at this point," said Det. Rick Dahl with the Edmonton Police Service's northeast division.

At about 2 p.m. on Feb. 29, police responded to reports of a break-and-enter and assault with a weapon in the 133 Avenue and 25 Street area.

A 31-year-old man had been shot with a gun inside his home. Two other people were also present at the time.

A silver Pontiac Sunfire was seen leaving the scene, which police discovered later that afternoon at a residence also located in northeast Edmonton.

Police arrested 19-year-old Alison Burns, 34-year-old Keith McDermott and 46-year-old Steve Paxton.

The three face multiple charges between them; they include housebreaking to commit aggravated assault, robbery with a firearm, assault with a weapon, possession of stolen property under \$5,000 and possession of body armour without a permit.

The victim is currently recovering in hospital and is in stable condition.

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Public to put stamp on art

COMMUNITY PROJECT

Local artist Destiny Swiderski to lead workshop

**Ben
Freeland**
For Metro | Edmonton

A public art workshop on Saturday will live up to its name allowing people to add their own touch to a new mural project for the Beaver Hills House Park.

The workshop, led by Winnipeg-born Métis artist Destiny Swiderski, will be held at the Drawing Room Studios and Salon on 97 Street. Participants are encouraged to tell their own story through textile drawings and colouring inside bird-shaped profiles, which will ultimately be silk-screened onto steel birds and attached to the Beaver Hills House Park wall.

"It was important to me that it be a public participation-type project, one that's not simply about the artist," says



This rendering shows what the proposed public art could look like — all of the birds on the wall will be designed by members of the public. CONTRIBUTED

Swiderski. "The idea here is to give the people of Edmonton a voice."

In planning the project,

Swiderski conducted extensive research into the park's namesake hills, located east of Edmonton, which she dis-

covered were an important migratory site for the Bohemian waxwing bird.

The mural in the park down-

+ WORKSHOP

The workshop will be held at the Drawing Room (10253 97 St.) on Saturday, March 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Those interested in participating should register at info@drawingroomedmonton.com.

town will consist of 146 bird silhouettes, each inscribed with project participants' designs.

While the workshop is open to all participants, the project has placed a heavy emphasis on indigenous voices.

Cultural guidance for the project was provided by Elder Jerry Saddleback of the Samson Cree First Nation, who provided the Cree language text (in both Latin and Cree syllabics) for the mural.

"The idea behind this project was to create a gateway into the park," Swiderski explains. "With this mural, we will literally have the community welcoming people in by way of the bird motifs."

CLIMATE CHANGE

First Nations want seat at meeting

**Samantha
Power**
For Metro | Edmonton

Alberta First Nations say they did not see the promised nation-to-nation relationship at the Prime Minister's meetings on climate in Vancouver.

"First Nation people were just asked to come and visit the premiers and Prime Minister," said Treaty 6 Grand Chief Tony Alexis.

Alexis said First Nations were disappointed to learn they would not have a seat at the table during the Prime Ministers meeting with the premiers. Prime Minister Trudeau had a separate meeting with Indigenous leaders and aboriginal organizations and then a meeting with the premiers and their representatives. Alexis did secure a spot to the First Ministers meeting as part of Minister of Indigenous Relations Richard Feehan's delegation. And although Alexis thanks Feehan, he's disappointed that elected chiefs did not have a more direct role.

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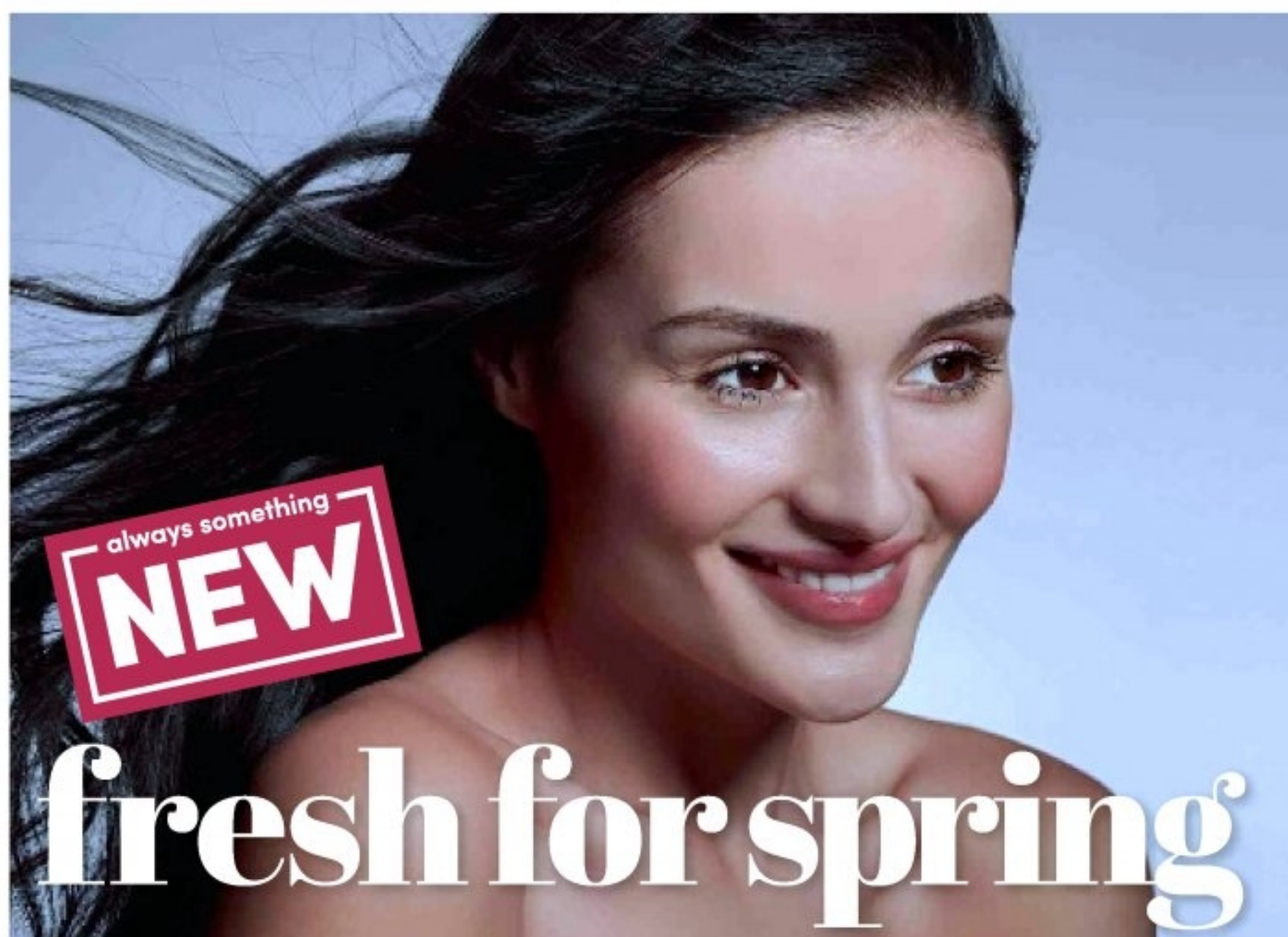
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What's in a name? Plenty

NAMING EDMONTON

New resource allows you to find out meanings



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

If you've ever been curious about the ABCs of Edmonton place names (or, your Argyll, Beverly, Castledowns), you'll be pleased to know a new project is launching Friday that plans to explore their hidden meanings.

Naming Edmonton is a new data project from geographer and open-data advocate Matt Dance.

Dance is hoping to crowd-source help to create a digital collection of names that can be manipulated by researchers or other curious Edmontonians.

Years ago, he found a book called "Naming Edmonton: From Ada to Zoie." Created by the city, it's a list of all the place names in town.



Matt Dance at Wolf Willow community league, named for a '30s farm. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

"It's similar to what geographers would have had on their desks for hundreds of years — but you know, of course, people don't have books on their desk any more," he said.

"We need to start digging deeper."
Matt Dance

Starting at the Edmonton Public Library's Open Data Day this weekend, he plans to take the approximately 10,000 names and transfer them into MS Excel files.

Once the data is in a more

usable form, he's seeking people to help him add information — the ethnic background of each name, for example — and assist in using the names to learn more about the history of Edmonton.

"Just imagine, if you were able to sort all the names by date of implementation," he said. "So you hit the sort key and you have all the names listed by year, back to the year Edmonton was founded."

Being able to manipulate the data would give you information about what early settlers thought was important — and also what's been left out of Edmonton's history.

Dance points out that the land Edmonton sits on has 8,000 years of occupational history, yet most place names are from Western Europe.

"(This project) is a gateway towards understanding the deeper history of Edmonton, and demonstrating that we have a very shallow understanding of this place and we need to start digging deeper."

Anyone interested in lending a hand can sign up on the Naming Edmonton website.

BUS SHELTER DAMAGE

Alleged vandals arrested



Sanam Islam
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton Police say two people charged in a recent vandalism spree used a slingshot and marbles to shatter bus shelter window panes as they drove around the city.

Police have charged 38-year-old Cynthia Zambrano and 55-year-old Leonardo Autera with mischief in connection to 70 bus shelter window panes that were broken in February.

Both are photographers who, for several months, were taking pictures of people waiting at bus stops for a book project.

Det. Rick Dahl of the Edmonton Police said it's one of the stranger cases they have seen.

"It's a rarity that someone of that age would be involved in something like that. Typically, it's attributed to younger offenders and that's what we anticipated," he said, adding it's the most damage ever related to a shelter vandalism spree in the city.

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THE OTHER

Play tells story through dance

Dance completes what words can't in Matt MacKenzie's new play, *The Other*.

With alienation at the core of *The Other*, MacKenzie uses dance to set an emotional tone for his final act in his trilogy of plays.

"Dance is the vehicle by which we are fed the story," says MacKenzie.

The Other focuses on the story of a Canadian woman, played by Amber Borotsik, who is raised in India and returns to live in small-town Alberta. Dance conveys the jumps through time, daydreams, deep space and memories through which Borotsik's character moves.

Based indirectly on the experience of someone close to him MacKenzie wanted to convey the way Borotsik's charac-

ter is the other in all aspects of her life.

"I wanted to look at someone society might view as a pariah," says MacKenzie.

Five dancers from the Good Women Dance Collective Dance complete the storytelling process along with local electronic music composer Dean Musani. Musani creates an underscore for the entire play, a process which MacKenzie says was fluid. When he

"I wanted to look at someone society might view as a pariah."

Matt MacKenzie

couldn't think of an appropriate end for the play, Musani's composition inspired the way forward.

The Other runs at the Roxy on Gateway until March 13 and is presented by Pyretic Productions as part of the Theatre Network.

SAMANTHA POWER/FOR METRO



Matt MacKenzie's new play *The Other* looks at issues around alienation and culture, through dance. CONTRIBUTED



Amy van Keeken performs music from her new album at the Almanac this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

What to do if you're in the city this weekend

GOING OUT

Music, art sale and readings — plenty on offer



Samantha Power
For Metro

FRIDAY

Smokey with Amy van Keeken at The Almanac, 10351 82 Ave NW

Amy van Keeken's sweet voice will melt your troubles and Smokey will mesmerize and finally the week will be complete and forgotten, securely in the past. All that for only

\$8. Try out one of Edmonton's newest venues. Doors at 8:30, show at 9:30.

SATURDAY

Ritchie Bazaar Arts sale and Pub Night at Ritchie Community Hall — 7727 98 St NW

Ritchie continues to prove community leagues can be cool with an art sale and pub night. Live acoustic music in the afternoon will provide a sweet background while you pick up local art and clothing. Admission is free from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ten bucks will get you into the pub night at 7:30 p.m. when Shelley Foss, Cutoffs, Herculez and Ball & Chain take the stage till 1 a.m..

Writer in Residence celebration at Audreys Books 10702 Jasper Ave

Celebrate poetry, independently published chapbooks and the survival of the written word on a published page, with the anniversary of one of the longest-running writers' programs.

Five of the writers who have held the title of writer in residence at the University of Alberta will read at Audreys Books, starting at 2 p.m.

Harsh Noise Wall at The Drawing Room 10253-97 Street

Noise music is the expressive acceptance of chaos. Artist Danny Milanese creates visual

and sound art inspired by the experimental expression of noise, and do-it-yourself zine and cassette culture. His exhibit *Harsh Noise Wall* includes acrylic and enamel paintings and a selection of watercolours. Danny Milanese's alter-ego, GEL NAILS, will provide ambient musique concrete at his exhibition at from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

SUNDAY

It's still winter. No, really, it is. And you can still heart it, according to the city of Edmonton and the River Valley Programs in Whitemud Park.

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Carbon pricing accord

CLIMATE CHANGE

Ministers in agreement, with regional adaptations

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada's premiers have agreed that carbon pricing will be part of any national plan to address climate change.

He said they will study pricing options that would be adapted to the specific circumstances of each province and territory.

The working group is one of four announced by Trudeau in Vancouver on Thursday after a day-long climate-change meeting with first ministers.

Trudeau said they are to meet again in the fall when the working groups are to report back.

"The commitment we made today, with the Vancouver Declaration, shows all first ministers in this country united on carbon pricing mechanisms," he said.

"The fact that we have consensus on the need to include carbon pricing in our approach to addressing climate change



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leads Canada's premiers to a news conference during the First Ministers Meeting in Vancouver on Thursday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

right across the country is a great thing indeed."

He added he's happy there's a plan to move forward while respecting regional differences.

"The working group that we have put together will dig into the mechanisms that will be

most effective and most appropriate for each jurisdiction, recognizing that there are areas that face greater challenges."

The federal government has been quietly insisting for weeks that a national carbon price, as promised in the Liberal election

platform, will be imposed from above if provinces are unable to agree. The day started with several premiers pushing back against that federal resolve.

Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil suggested there was "more than one way to deal

+ MANITOBA

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, who faces re-election this spring, said there's a common understanding among premiers that action on climate change can and should take many paths. "The do-nothing option is not there," he said.

with the carbon issue."

He said Atlantic Canada's heavy spending on hydro-electric transmission has effectively already built in a carbon price with electricity rates that are the highest in Canada.

Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski said he and his fellow territorial premiers are against imposing additional costs on consumers of fossil fuels in the North.

Brad Wall of Saskatchewan came to Vancouver warning against a carbon tax in a fragile Canadian economy, but cleared the air Wednesday by saying his province would participate "constructively" in any working groups. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BORDER

Police project delayed

A Canada-U.S. initiative to create new, cross-border law-enforcement teams has been "postponed" due to unresolved concerns about how to treat police officers accused of breaking the law.

The so-called next-generation border project has been put off as discussions continue with U.S. officials — almost four years after pilot projects were supposed to begin, said Staff Sgt. Julie Gagnon, a force spokeswoman.

The initiative — part of the 2011 Canada-U.S. perimeter security pact — would see the two countries build on joint border-policing efforts by creating integrated teams in areas such as intelligence and criminal investigations.

Two pilot projects were supposed to get underway by summer 2012.

But in 2013, it emerged that the effort was being held up by the difficult question of which country's legal system would apply if a police officer were accused of breaking the law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANIMAL CARE

Vet gets training in Winnipeg to protect lemurs

Meg Crane
For Metro

A Malagasy veterinarian is in Winnipeg to get first-hand surgery training in hopes of sparing native wildlife, like lemurs,

from being decimated by stray animals in her home country.

"In school, you get next to no practical training," said Winnipeg veterinarian Jonas Watson about vet training in Madagascar.

Watson, of Tuxedo Animal Hospital, is one of the vets behind Mad Dog Initiative, an organiza-

tion that goes to Madagascar to trap, spay or neuter and then release stray cats and dogs.

An overpopulation of strays on the island has wreaked havoc on native wildlife, said Watson, thanks in part to a lack of practical veterinary training to keep pet populations down.

In order to help Malagasy vets get that training, they're brought to Canada to learn surgery in a Canadian clinic.

On Feb. 26, vet Tsiky Rajaonarivelo left Madagascar for the first time and made the 30-hour flight to Winnipeg where she's working with about a dozen different

vets. She's currently at Birchwood Animal Hospital.

"It's pretty different from what I know in my country because there are just lots of machines (here)," Rajaonarivelo said. "When we do the surgery in Madagascar ... we don't have the (same equipment.)"



Tsiky Rajaonarivelo
MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

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REFUGEE CRISIS

EU mulls ways to deport migrants

Turkey is under growing pressure to consider a major escalation in migrant deportations from Greece, a top European Union official said Thursday, amid preparations for a highly anticipated summit of EU and Turkish leaders next week.

European Council President Donald Tusk ended a six-nation tour of migration crisis countries in Turkey, where 850,000 migrants and refugees left last year for Greek islands.

"We agree that the refugee flows still remain far too high," Tusk said after meeting Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu.

"To many in Europe, the most promising method seems to be a fast and large-scale mechanism to ship back irregular migrants arriving in Greece. It would effectively break the business model of the smugglers."

Tusk was careful to single out illegal economic migrants for possible deportation, not asylum-seekers. And he wasn't clear who would actually carry out the expulsions: Greece itself, EU border agency Frontex or even other organizations like NATO.

"We consider the (Macedonian) border to be closed ... Letting 80 through a day is not significant," Migration Minister Ioannis Mouzals said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Migrants in Greece. LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

American finds possible Flight MH370 debris

American Blaine Gibson said that he discovered part of an aircraft off the coast of Mozambique. The debris could be from the Malaysia Airlines flight MH370. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cholera kills dozens every month in Haiti

Cholera, which arrived in Haiti in 2010, has sickened more than 770,000 people and killed more than 9,200. So far this year, it has killed an average of 37 people a month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mitt Romney, top left, gives a speech on the state of the Republican party in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday. Romney spoke about Donald Trump, right, calling him a fraud and arguing against his nomination, a sentiment Sen. John McCain, bottom left, agreed with. GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump blasted by McCain, Romney

POLITICS

Ex-presidential nominees urge GOP to shun frontrunner

The Republican's most recent presidential nominees, Mitt Romney and John McCain, lambasted current front-runner Donald Trump on Thursday, calling him unfit for office and a danger for the nation, in an extraordinary show of intra-party chaos.

"His is not the temperament of a stable, thoughtful leader," Romney declared. He called Trump "a phoney" who is "playing the American public for suckers," a man whose "imagination must not be married to real power."

Hours later, Trump lashed

back, calling Romney "a choke artist" who lost to Barack Obama four years ago only because he was such a poor candidate.

The vicious feud marked a near-unprecedented scenario pitting the Republican Party's most prominent leaders, past and present, against each other as Democrats begin to unite around Hillary Clinton.

Underlying the clash is a bleak reality for panicking Republican officials: Beyond harsh words, there is little they see to stop Trump's march toward the presidential nomination. Party leaders are poring over complicated delegate math, outlining hazy scenarios for a contested national convention and even flirting with the idea of a third-party effort.

Romney confidant Ron Kaufman, a senior member of the Republican National Commit-

tee, openly embraced the possibility of a contested convention: "If that's the only way to stop Trump, it makes sense," he told The Associated Press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ TALKING BACK

Kelly prepares for debate

All eyes are on Megyn Kelly and Donald Trump during Fox News Channel's Megyn Kelly in Thursday's Republican presidential debate. She said she prepared the same "tough but fair" questions for him as she does for other candidates.

Kelly and Trump clashed during the first GOP debate last summer. Trump then boycotted a debate that Fox telecast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MISSILE LAUNCH

North Korea readying its nukes

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has ordered his country's nuclear weapons made ready for use at a moment's notice, the official state news agency reported Friday.

Kim also said his country will ready its military so it is prepared to carry out pre-emptive attacks, calling the current situation very precarious, according to KCNA.

On Thursday, North Korea fired six short-range projectiles into the sea off its east coast, South Korean officials said, just hours after the UN Security Council approved the tough-

est sanctions on the North in two decades for its recent nuclear test and long-range rocket launch.

The firings also came shortly after South Korea's National Assembly passed its first legislation on human rights in North Korea.

North Korea routinely test-fires missiles and rockets, but often conducts weapons launches when angered at international condemnation. Thursday's firings were seen as a "low-level" response to the UN sanctions, with North Korea unlikely to launch any major provocation until its landmark ruling Work-

150 km

The North Korean projectiles flew about 100 to 150 kilometres before landing in the sea, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ers' Party convention in May, according to Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Festivals feel loonie's pinch

ECONOMY

Music and arts events booking more Canadian performers

The Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival has recruited some notable American names in the past, including Saturday Night Live star Kate McKinnon and writer-actor Michael Ian Black.

But this year it will be an exclusively Canadian event for a reason that's no laughing matter: The low loonie means the fest can't afford to book international talent.

This year's lineup is all homegrown and a bit more eclectic than usual, with names including Rush guitarist Alex Lifeson and Dave Bidini of the Rheostatics, along with comedians Gavin Crawford, Jessica Holmes and Sean Cullen.

They may be household names on this side of the border, but the festival isn't expecting to sell as many tickets as in previous years.

"I think we probably will not," says Paul Snepsts, executive director of the event, which kicked off Thursday.

"That's not because of a lack of talent in this country. It just seems, and I think this is true in music as well as comedy, that we have a tendency to be prone to buying into something once it has achieved success elsewhere."

Some other arts festivals are also grappling with the weak dollar.

"We're feeling it somewhat," says Josh Grossman, artistic director of the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, which showcases talent from around the world.

Grossman says he's heard organizers of other festivals say the loonie is also affecting their approach to programming.

He expects his festival may have to raise some ticket prices "a little bit."

"It's hard to say exactly, but a show that we might have been able to sell for \$25 last year is maybe going to be \$30 this year, that sort of thing," he says.

There is a silver lining. Festivals focusing on domestic acts means homegrown talent has a chance to shine.

The low loonie may also spur more Americans to come up to Canada and attend these very festivals.

+ FIRST VICTIM

Squamish Valley Music Festival cancelled

B.C.'s Squamish Valley Music Festival, which takes place in August, has officially been cancelled for 2016. Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman said organizers told her it was a "business decision," which she suspects was likely influenced by the low Canadian dollar.

METRO

That's the thinking of the Toronto International Film Festival, which says it doesn't expect the low loonie to affect its annual movie marathon "in a significant way."

"Incoming guest travel represents a very small percentage of our budgetary spend," says Piers Handling, the festival's director and CEO.

"Indeed, we hope to experience some favourable effects from the exchange rate and welcome greater numbers of U.S. industry guests, visitors and media for the festival in 2016."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Janneke Coenen dances at the Squamish Valley Music Festival in August last year. The festival has been cancelled for 2016, and Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman suspects the dollar influenced that decision. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

HEALTH

Google joins the Zika fight

Google is donating \$1 million to fight the spread of the Zika virus and offering engineers and data scientists help to determine where it will hit next.

Zika has become an epidemic in Latin America and the Caribbean since last fall. The virus is mainly spread through mosquito bites and has been linked to birth defects.

Google said it is in a good position to assist since its mission is to help people find information, and it has experience analyzing large sets of data. The company has seen a more than 3,000 per cent increase in global search interest in Zika since November.

The Mountain View, Calif., company's grant will go to UNICEF and be used to help reduce mosquito populations and support the development of diagnostics and vaccines as well as work to prevent virus transmission.

Google's engineers are helping to build a platform to process data on things like weather and travel patterns to predict potential outbreaks. The company said the platform will be used to help government officials and others to decide where to focus their resources.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FISHERIES

Warmer ocean points to boom in lobster catch

Scientists with the Portland-based Gulf of Maine Research Institute predict this year's lobster season will get rolling two or three weeks early because of warming

ocean temperatures. Along Maine's coast, temperatures are higher than normal, which means lobsters are likely to move inshore and become more easily trapped earlier this summer, they said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Stress and grief can trigger heart trouble. A new study shows joyous events like becoming a grandparent can break your heart too.

DECODED

'Just following orders'

That was the catchphrase of the **Milgram experiments**, some of the most infamous studies in the history of science. In the 1960s, psychologist Stanley Milgram believed he'd proven regular people could be easily convinced to inflict what they thought was a painful, or even deadly, electric shock on somebody if they were ordered to by an authority figure. He said it was a profound insight into the minds of perpetrators of atrocities like the Holocaust. But reputable science must be replicable. And the Milgram experiments, which required that researchers tell people to harm others, were so ethically problematic there was really no way to repeat them in a modern lab. But now, someone has tried.

The original Milgram experiments
Stanley Milgram, 1963

EXPERIMENTER
As the "shocks" and screams got more intense, the lab assistant delivered lines from a script if participants started to express doubts. First "Please continue," then "The experiment requires that you continue," then "It is absolutely essential that you continue" and finally "You have no other choice, you must go on."

'TEACHER'

LEARNER (ACTOR)

STUDY TITLE: BEHAVIOURAL STUDY OF OBEDIENCE

Method: The volunteer research subject, called "the teacher," read a list of words for "the learner," an actor who was hooked up to a (fake) shock machine in another room, out of sight. If the learner made a mistake repeating the words, the teacher was instructed to deliver ever-stronger electric shocks. Pre-recorded screams were played, and just before the highest shock was to be given, the learner fell silent.

Result: In one experiment, 65 per cent of "teachers" obeyed all orders, right up to the end.

A modern Milgram
Patrick Haggard and colleagues, 2016

EXPERIMENTER
In one study, an experimenter stood over the subject and told her which key to press — a little nudge that proved to have a clear impact on subjects' actions. In another, the experimenter looked away and let the subjects decide for themselves.

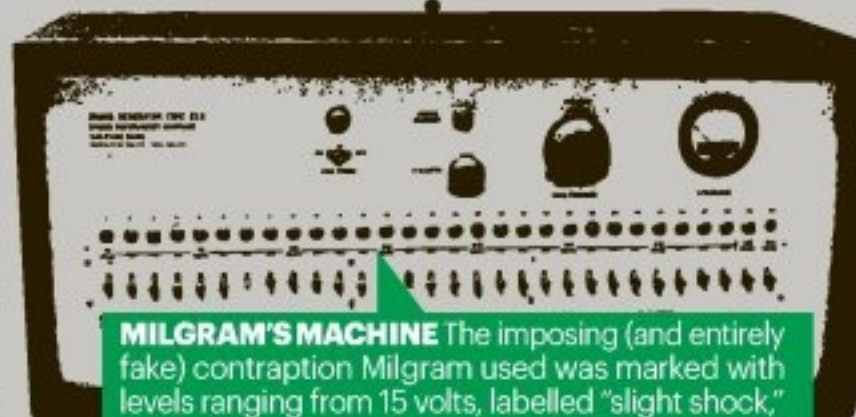
SUBJECT

SUBJECT

STUDY TITLE: COERCION CHANGES THE SENSE OF AGENCY IN THE HUMAN BRAIN

Method: This experiment had no element of secrecy. The research subjects sat across from each other with a keyboard between them with two keys: One delivered a painful (but not dangerous) electric shock, while the other did nothing. Some subjects were told to deliver shocks (sometimes earning a small financial reward), and others were given free choice as to whether to deliver them or not.

Result: The research subjects who were ordered by the lab assistant to deliver shocks were significantly more likely to do so.



MILGRAM'S MACHINE The imposing (and entirely fake) contraption Milgram used was marked with levels ranging from 15 volts, labelled "slight shock," up to 450 volts ("Danger: severe shock"). Among his hundreds of human guinea pigs, many later reported either discomfort or confusion, but a few suffered more serious effects — even, allegedly, a heart attack and in another case seizures. At least one expert has even argued what Milgram did meets the definition of torture under international law.

The late Stanley Milgram is an authority, albeit an extremely controversial one, in the world of psychology.

The average social psychology textbook devotes eight pages to his work, and interest in it is growing exponentially.

The question of why good, or at least normal, people sometimes do others harm has eternal appeal. It's easy to see why: If we understand that, couldn't we understand, for example, why some children are bullies, or why some

people become terrorists?

Investigating that question is more complicated than it seems, says St. Thomas University psychology professor Ian Nicholson, a critic of Milgram-style experiments old and new.

"Milgram came out of an era — which hasn't completely ended — where there was a dream of being able to develop a level of exactitude toward human nature akin to the certainty we have in the natural sciences," Nicholson says.

"We'd know definitively why people become bad."

Drawing conclusions about the Holocaust from people's behaviour in a lab is a logical leap too far, he argues.

Unlike research subjects, perpetrators of atrocities knew exactly what they were doing, and believed it was right. And that's the key distinction,

Nicholson says.

He likens Milgram's lab to an "unusual space" like a magician's

stage. You might be asked to volunteer to take a saw to someone, and it might be socially acceptable to do it. But that wouldn't make you an axe murderer. Everyone knows "Kooky, goofy, weird stuff goes on" in psych labs, he says, and people "roll with it."

In the Milgram 2.0 experiments, there was no decep-

tion. Participants knew they were dishing out real pain, and they continued. Author Patrick Haggard told *Nature*, "Your sense of responsibility is reduced whenever someone orders you to do something."

Still, this took place in a lab. It's hard to make a case, Nicholson says, that the results are "generalizable." What he suggests instead is less electrifying: Consult historical records, and if you want to understand people who've done horrible things, talk to them.

FASCINATING FINDS OF THE WEEK

ATTRACTIVE IDEA

For years, techies have dreamt of Magnetic Random Access Memory, a data-storage method so sturdy that in-progress essays would survive power outages; so efficient, phone batteries would last days. Until now the method (which involves reversing the spin of electrons) required a huge blast of electricity. But Dutch researchers have found a workaround: bending the electric current with a sort of anti-magnet.

FOR THE GATOR GOOD

Nesting birds in the Everglades tend to live near alligators' lairs. The reptiles are handy bodyguards against raccoons and other predators who like to snatch eggs and chicks. Now there's new evidence, published in the journal *PLOS One*, of why alligators dig this arrangement. Wading birds lay more eggs than they can raise, and they get rid of extra chicks by pushing them out of the nest. Alligators snack on the surplus.

SOUND SMART



A hypothesis, now confirmed, for why island coasts are more biodiverse than open oceans: Currents around islands dredge up nutrient-rich water that nourishes phytoplankton, which provide food for invertebrates and fish, which attract sea birds — and presto! Coral reef.



Genna Buck

Citizen Scientist

Should I try cutting wheat, dairy or eggs out of my child's diet?

QUESTION

My four-year-old gets frequent tummy aches. Other parents swear by eliminating irritating foods — wheat, dairy, eggs, etc. Does that actually work?
Andrea in Halifax

Dear Andrea,

I can't address your child's issues from here in Toronto, and also I'm not a health

professional. Get thee to your family doctor! Not Dr. Google. The dietary-advice industry is a duck pond: It's full of quacks.

To your question: Yes, elimination diets (i.e. dairy-free) have their place for children with an allergy (diagnosed by a doctor, usually with a skin test), or an intolerance (such as lactose intolerance and others).

A study out of Umeå University in Sweden this week

looked at food allergies and parent-identified hypersensitivities in 2,585 seven- and eight-year-olds. Just 0.6 per cent showed evidence of reactions to at least one basic food (milk, eggs, fish or wheat). But eight times as many had parents who said they were allergic to one of those things. Years later, many of the kids were still on restricted diets, though the majority had

either outgrown their allergy or intolerance (many do), or never had it in the first place.

Dieticians will tell you growing kids should enjoy a variety of foods. Without a good medical reason, they'd rarely advise cutting a whole category like dairy, which for all its faults is rich in calcium and protein.

Science question? Email scene@metronews.ca

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Gerard Butler: The actor we love to hate



Gerard Butler is looking to redeem his bad movie rap with *London Has Fallen*, which opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

ANALYSIS

Good looks, acting chops and bad movie role choices

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Last week as I fought traffic en route to a *London Has Fallen* screening, I tweeted from the back of a cab, "Out of my way people! I'm running late for a Gerard Butler movie!" It was a silly little joke, a comment to kill time as we idled in the morning rush hour.

The first response came in right away: "said no one, ever," followed by a torrent of unexpected Butler hate.

One person called him a "bouncer actor," whatever that means.

Another questioned his ability to effectively disguise his native Scottish accent and many people offered me their condolences.

Why the Butler bashing?

It's true he is a frustrating movie star. He shares the usual leading man traits that have made Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio superstars.

He's handsome, talented and built like an action star but he's been done in time after time by poor choices.

Pitt makes *Fight Club*, Butler makes *Law Abiding Citizen*. Leo stars in *The Departed*, Gerard

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Zootopia ★★★
London Has Fallen ★★★
Whiskey Tango Foxtrot ★★★
The Legend of Barney Thomson ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

does *Machine Gun Preacher*. Years ago the website *Gawker* placed Butler on movie star probation, calling him a "professional bad decision maker" alongside notable career fritters Cuba Gooding Jr. and John Travolta. A look at his IMDB page suggests they were on to something.

He's a utility player, comfortable switching genres the way most of us change our socks. One minute he's a romantic

comedy star, the next he's choking out bad guys on screen. He's flirted with Shakespeare and provided voices for cartoons.

He's done sci-fi flicks, musicals and even a rendering of the Anglo-Saxon epic poem *Beowulf*.

It's not like he hasn't enjoyed some very big hits. In *300* he (and his meticulously crafted six-pack) played King Leonidas, a Spartan who led 300 soldiers against the might of the Persian army.

It's the film equivalent of a heavy metal concert — loud, brutal and completely uncompromising — and it made him an action hero.

People have a soft spot for *Dear Frankie*, his breakout film and the one that turned him into a heartthrob with serious dramatic chops. The four-hankie U.K. tear-jerker about a single mother who resorts to trickery to keep the memory of her late husband alive in her son's mind put Butler on the world stage.

Other box office bonanzas include playing a charming mobster in the violent Guy Ritchie flick *RocknRolla* and voicing Viking Stoick the Vast in *How to Train Your Dragon*.

It's the other stuff that seems to rub people the wrong way. As a movie reviewer I can at-

test there are few English language words more terrifying than "New Gerard Butler Romantic Comedy" and I think it is those films that turned my Twitter followers against him.

He's a good actor but his track record in the rom-com department is particularly grim.

Critics hate these movies, calling the handsome Scottish actor's attempts at mixing love and comedy, "instantly grating," and "embarrassingly limited."

But I come to praise Butler, not to bury him. Let's give him another chance.

I made it to the *London Has Fallen* screening and can tell you it's a pretty good action movie. Perhaps even good enough to erase the memory of *The Ugly Truth* or *Playing for Keeps* from our collective memories.

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PREVIEW

Ghostbusters trailer blends old and new



Ghostbusters is due out on July 15. CONTRIBUTED

I ain't afraid of no Ghostbusters reboot!

The first trailer shows the summer comedy crossing the streams of the 1984 original with the signatures of director Paul Feig.

Kristen Wiig stars as Erin Gilbert, a doctor of particle physics, whose wacky team of paranormal investigators played by Melissa McCarthy, Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones (not a scientist, but brought in because she "knows New York") tackle New York City's ghost invasion.

Fans of Feig comedies such as Bridesmaids and The Heat will recognize his off-the-cuff comedy style, which prizes slapstick over sense. So when Melissa Mc-

Carthy is possessed by a ghost, of course it calls for Leslie Jones to slap the spooks out of her. Of course there is a haunting in a wig store. Where else would a ghost spend the afterlife?

Between the familiar synth-driven '80s theme song, the modified hearse Ecto-1, and buckets of ectoplasm, Feig's Ghostbusters world doesn't seem far removed from the '80s original. Even Slimmer, the franchise mascot, is glimpsed in the trailer. We look forward to a full red-carpet confession about how he stays eternally youthful. This ghost does not look a day over 1,000.

Ghostbusters is due in theatres on July 15. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

If the whole world went to the hogs

Disney's new movie Zootopia got us thinking: what if animals really did rule the world? It's not the first movie to envision an alternate version of human society. As these examples illustrate, there are some serious advantages to living in animal-centric worlds. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Babe (1995)

The kingdom: Modest barnyard with wide variety of affable talking creatures and kindly god figure Farmer Hoggett

Benefits: High tolerance for citizens with pronounced eccentricities (i.e., pigs who think they're dogs), local fairs that offer American Idol-like opportunities to emerging talents

Drawbacks: Like the goose says, "Dinner means death! Death means carnage! Christmas means carnage!"



Ants (1998)

The kingdom: An ant colony in New York's Central Park that's presented as a totalitarian, rigidly conformist society with billions of inhabitants.

Benefits: Life is hard but at least the bars have plenty of "aphid beer" and line dancing.

Drawbacks: Wars with acid-spewing termites, bitter class divisions between upper-crust ants and their proletariat lessers, constant threat of being crushed by giant sneaker tread.



Kung Fu Panda (2008)

The kingdom: The verdant valleys and majestic mountains of ancient China except most of the inhabitants don't need coats to stay warm.

Benefits: Remarkably inclusive attitudes to potentially divisive issues of species difference (tigers and monkeys enjoy friendships with insects and birds) and non-traditional families.

Drawbacks: Sizeism still rampant, inner peace as hard to achieve as ever.



Fantastic Mr. Fox (2009)

The kingdom: Parallel world of nattily dressed woodland creatures in and underneath bucolic English countryside.

Benefits: Excellent tunnel system, reputable badger attorneys, strong support for local newspaper, relaxed attitude to table manners.

Drawbacks: Rifle-toting farmers living in close vicinity, hard to maintain look of freshly pressed shirt.



Planet of the Apes (1968)

The kingdom: Brutal world in which primates occupy all roles of an early industrial society. It's really a postapocalyptic Earth!

Benefits: Chance to look bad-ass in a black leather vest, easy to get hairless-ape slaves to do the stuff you don't want to.

Drawbacks: Restrictive caste system that limits gorillas to roles as authoritarian right-wingers and chimps as intellectual liberals, no ethical constraints to prevent chimp-on-human experiments.



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FEUD

Simone estate slams casting call in biopic

If there was any doubt about how Nina Simone's family feels about the upcoming biopic starring Zoe Saldana, recent social media posts make it clear they are not pleased.

A fresh round of criticism for the film erupted after the trailer and poster for Nina were unveiled Wednesday.

Saldana posted a quote from the singer and civil rights activist on Twitter, and Simone's estate responded with: "Cool story but please take Nina's name out your mouth. For the rest of your life."

Simone's daughter and others have decried the choice to cast a light-skinned actress as the African-American activist since Saldana took the part in 2012. Her skin was apparently darkened for the role.

At the time, Simone's daughter, Simone Kelly, said: "Appearance-wise this is not the best choice."

"My mother was raised at a time when she was told her nose was too wide, her skin was too dark," Kelly told the New York Times in a 2012 interview.

The Simone estate tweeted Wednesday: "Hopefully people begin to understand this is painful. Gut-wrenching, heartbreaking, nauseating, soul-crushing. It shall pass, but for now..."

The singer's estate co-operated with producers of the Netflix documentary *What Happened, Miss Simone?* which was nominated for an Oscar this year.

Robert L. Johnson, founder and chairman of the studio releasing Nina, describes Saldana's performance as "an exceptional and mesmerizing tribute."

"She gave her heart and soul to the role and displayed her extraordinary talent," he said in a statement Thursday.

"The most important thing is that creativity or quality of performance should never be judged on the basis of colour, or ethnicity, or physical likeness."

Representatives for Saldana and the Simone estate did not respond to requests for comment Thursday.

RLJ Entertainment will release Nina in theatres, digital HD and video on demand on April 22.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The family of Simone (left) have decried the casting choice of Saldana (right). DAVID REDFERN/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES

War correspondent's book comes to big screen

INTERVIEW

Author's life made into a movie starring Tina Fey

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

"To be a good journalist you have to be a bit of a chameleon," says Kim Barker. "You have to be accepting of different cultures, different languages and different situations. I have always been the kind of person who feels like they can go into any situation and fit in."

In real life, Barker is a journalist who worked at the Chicago Tribune as a reporter and volunteered to become a foreign correspondent in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In reel life, she's played by Tina Fey in *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot* as an expatriate television journalist addicted to the rush of living and working in a war zone.

Whiskey Tango Foxtrot plays like *Animal House* with warlords, or maybe *Fear and Loathing in Afghanistan*, but Barker describes the reality of her time there in more poetic terms.

"In Afghanistan everything looks like a picture," says Barker. "Everything is so beautiful. The people are beautiful. The landscape is beautiful. You are surrounded by mountains when you're in Kabul. (The people) are very friendly, very direct with very good sense of humour. Also Afghanistan has men with long beards and pick up trucks and guns who hate the government. That is familiar to me. I grew up in Montana."

At the beginning of her time



Fey stars in *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot*, based on the book *The Taliban Shuffle* by Barker. HANDOUT

abroad Barker was a fish out of water but soon learned to culturally adapt and love the country.

"I remember on my second trip there meeting a guy who asked if I wanted to go fishing with him. I grew up fishing but fishing in Afghanistan is a little bit different because it usually involved throwing a grenade into the lake and stunning the fish or blowing them out of the water or using generator wires to electrocute them. That just doesn't seem very sporting to me."

Barker's book, *The Taliban Shuffle* came to Tina Fey shortly after a New York Times review mentioned Barker's similarity to the comedic actress.

"Tina Fey saw it," Barker says. "I think her people probably showed it to her or my people. I don't really have people but my agent sent it over to her people. She read the book and within two weeks of that review coming out she pushed Paramount and Lorne Michaels (who produced the movie) to option the book and make it into a movie."

"(People) said, 'Who's going to play you?' I said, 'A smart funny woman in Hollywood,' and everybody was like, 'Tina Fey?' It was everybody's first answer."

Barker describes having her life turned into a film as surreal. "It's hard to even think about,"



Afghanistan has men with long beards and pick up trucks and guns who hate the government. That is familiar to me. I grew up in Montana.

Kim Barker, journalist

she says, "people seeing this in a theatre. They are going to equate me with Kim Barker even though (that) Kim Barker is a version of me. It's fictionalized."

She says the film screenwriter Robert Carlock told her early on that they would have to "Hollywood this up." Changes to the basic story were made, and when they sent her a final copy of the script in 2014 she couldn't bring herself to read it. Finally her best friend read the script "to make sure it is not going to embarrass you."

"She read it and said, 'It's fine. It's good. It's really good. You're probably not going to like parts of it because it makes you seem more heroic than you think of yourself.' She was absolutely right. I'm not that brave."

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ACTION & ADVENTURE

London Has Fallen

Director: Babak Najafi
Starring: Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart

The British Prime Minister has passed away under mysterious circumstances. His funeral is a must-attend event for leaders of the western world. What starts out as the most protected event on Earth turns into a deadly plot.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 18% + 96%



DRAMA/COMEDY

Whiskey Tango Foxtrot

Director: Glenn Ficarra, John Requa
Starring: Tina Fey

SNL alumni Tina Fey steps into the shoes of journalist Kim Barker in an adaptation of Barker's memoir *The Taliban Shuffle: Strange Days in Afghanistan and Pakistan*, which details her years as a reporter in Pakistan and Afghanistan beginning in 2002.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 56% + 95%



ACTION/COMEDY

Zootopia

Director: Byron Howard, Rich Moore
Starring: Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman

Zootopia is a city like no other. Comprised of habitat neighbourhoods like ritzy Sahara Square and frigid Tundratown, it's a melting pot where animals from every environment live together — a place where no matter what you are, you can be anything.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 100% + 98%



ART HOUSE

The Wave

Director: Roar Uthaug
Starring: Kristoffer Joner, Ane Dahl Torp

Nestled in Norway's Sunnmøre region, Geiranger is one of the most spectacular tourist draws on the planet. With the mountain Åkerneset overlooking the village - and constantly threatening to collapse into the fjord - it is also a place where cataclysm could strike at any moment.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 88% + 84%



DOCUMENTARY

Where To Invade Next

Director: Michael Moore

This is an expansive, rib-tickling, and subversive comedy in which Moore, playing the role of "invader," visits a host of nations to learn how the U.S. could improve its own prospects. The creator of *Fahrenheit 9/11* and *Bowling for Columbine* is back with this hilarious and eye-opening call to arms.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 76% 🍿 74%



DRAMA

Mustang

Director: Deniz Gamze Ergüven
Starring: Güneş Sensoy

Early summer in a village in Northern Turkey. Five free-spirited teenaged sisters splash about on the beach with their male classmates. Though their games are merely innocent fun, a neighbor passes by and reports what she considers to be illicit behavior to the girls' family.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
🍅 96% 🍿 90%

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Robert Carlyle directs, and stars alongside Emma Thompson in *The Legend of Barney Thomson*. HANDOUT

'Gleefully macabre' adaptation

DARK COMEDY

Robert Carlyle does double duty acting and directing

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

The *Legend of Barney Thomson* is a movie Robert Carlyle was destined to make. The Once Upon a Time star not only plays the lead character, he directed the Scottish black comedy about an awkward barber who unwittingly becomes a serial killer.

"I was offered this four or five times purely as an actor over a period of five or six years," he says. "I can't get away from it."

The script is based on *The Long Midnight of Barney Thomson* by Douglas Lindsay, a novel *The Scotsman* described as "gleefully macabre."

Carlyle, a Maryhill, Glasgow native, liked the screenplay but says, "there were certain aspects of Glasgow culture that were missing from it."

"In Glasgow we have a way of speaking to one another that is kind of harsh. That was missing." He drew from personal experience to find Glasgow sites

that "fitted in with Barney's life."

"A lot of the locations you see in the film like the Barrowland Ballroom are places that are kind of dying and might not be around for much longer so I thought this was an interesting way of documenting some of these places."

Initially he signed on only as an actor but soon found himself doing double duty. "Believe me when I say, it certainly wasn't my idea," says Carlyle. "I can't remember but from whichever source it came from it seemed to be an interesting hook to hang this on that not only was I going to be in it but direct it also. That enthused the financiers."

The first time feature film director says he took his lead for the tone of the movie from the book and the script.

"Let's not have the camera moving around and spinning around in circles. Let's spend the time on the performances and not the camera angles, which you end up cutting anyway."

He recruited an all-star cast, including Sir Tom Courtney, Ray Winstone and his old *Trainspotting* cast mate James Cosmo. In a casting coup, he hired two time Oscar winner Emma Thompson to play against type as Barney's monstrous mom.

The *Legend of Barney Thomson* has already won Best Picture at the Scottish BAFTAs.

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The Junos version of Poehler and Fey

TELEVISION

Jann Arden and Olympian Jon Montgomery to host the show

Watch your backs, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, because Canadian singer Jann Arden and Olympic gold medallist Jon Montgomery are coming for your comedic hosting crowns.

The Calgary-born singer and former skeleton racer from Russell, Man., are teaming up to host this year's Juno Awards in Calgary, and Arden



Jann Arden and Jon Montgomery sit with Jann's dog Midi in Toronto on Thursday. CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE CANADIAN PRESS

“

John's very charismatic. He's got good teeth and hair — that reads very well on television.

Jann Arden, on John Montgomery

likens their duties to the unforgettable pairing of Fey and Poehler at the Golden Globes.

“We're going to beat our writers up and say, ‘No, give us something else to say!’ until it's right,” Arden jokes.

“I've got 19 gown changes, so it's going to be exhausting.”

Arden says she's aiming high for the Junos given the splash that several Canadian nominees made internationally in the past year.

Some of them are also lined up to take the stage to perform, including The Weeknd, Alessia Cara and Shawn Mendes.

“You've got Canadians displacing other Canadians for the top of the charts,” adds Montgomery.

“If that doesn't paint a picture of what we can proudly lay claim to here in Canada

... then nothing is going to do it for you.”

Over the next month, Arden and Montgomery will brainstorm ideas on how to make their hosting duties special.

“We're going to have a lot of fun,” Arden says.

“I know that seems kind of trite, but we're supposed to be referees, we're supposed to keep the show moving and set a tone.”

Only hours after meeting each other for the first time, the hosts were already exchanging the sort of witty banter you'd expect from two old friends.

Montgomery concedes that while neither Arden or himself have set foot on a Saturday Night Live stage — like Fey and Poehler — they've got the spirit to channel their own version of the classic pairing.

Both are also bringing a formidable level of experience to the table, as they've already fronted major Canadian TV events.

Arden, who rose to fame on Canada's music scene in the 1990s with hits like *Could I Be Your Girl* and *Insensitive*, previously hosted the 1997 Juno Awards in Hamilton. That's when Celine Dion and Bryan Adams took home statues for best female and male vocalists.

Montgomery has sharpened his skills as the host of *Amazing Race Canada* for three seasons.

“John's very charismatic,” Arden says.

“He's got good teeth and hair — that reads very well on television.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WATCH

You can watch Jann and John try out their comedic chops at the Juno Awards on April 3, 7:00 p.m. EST on CTV.

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The Power to Surprise

TELEVISION

Trudeau interview to air on 60 Minutes

A profile interview with Justin Trudeau is to air Sunday on the iconic CBS program 60 Minutes, just days before the prime minister travels to Washington, D.C., for a state visit.

A promotional blurb on the network's website describes Trudeau as “a scion of Canadian political royalty” from a family often compared to the Kennedys in the United States.

It touches on the Liberal decision to bring in 25,000 Syrian refugees, a move questioned by some in the United States.

Trudeau has defended the refugee plan as safe and the right thing to do, saying he prefers openness and respect to erecting barriers and imposing oppressive policies.

He concedes there is a risk, but no more so than when-

ever any tourist, immigrant or refugee enters the country.

In a brief clip of the interview posted on the site, correspondent Lara Logan asks the prime minister about his “unusual path” to the job and criticism that he wasn't ready for it.

“I was a snowboard instructor, I was a bouncer in a nightclub, I was a whitewater river guide ... I worked as a

teacher,” he replies. “I make no apologies for a very varied set of life experiences.”

He shrugs off suggestions that he is too young and unprepared.

“You cannot let yourself be defined by the hopes that you will fulfil the darkest wishes of your opponents,” he says.

The 60 Minutes interview airs Sunday at 7 p.m. ET.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Prime Minister Trudeau. JONATHAN HAYWAYRD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



Knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last?

likes of Mr. Carson.

Over six seasons, the British drama has chronicled the lives lived both upstairs and downstairs in the Georgian-era country home. Simon and I used to watch Downton together. But when plots started to approximate soap operas in both length and content — Anna and Mr. Bates have to be two of the unluckiest characters ever on TV — no amount of tea cups, gorgeous Edwardian costuming and posh accents could help make the show feel more than a guilty pleasure. We tuned out.

But knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. What has Mrs. Patmore been cooking up in the kitchen? Did Lady Sybil come back from the dead? Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last? So I read some episode recaps, skipped straight ahead to Season 6, and breathed a sigh of relief to see that the Dowager Countess, played by Dame Maggie



Smith, hadn't lost her penchant for acerbic aphorisms.

It looks like Thomas Barrow, "the most consistent plotter of nefarious schemes for nearly all six seasons of the show," as Vulture recently put it, may have atoned for past sins and be redeemed. And yes, there are still over-the-top sensational moments: in Episode 5 Lord Grantham's ulcer takes a turn for the worse and he literally starts spewing blood from his

mouth during dinner.

But I did my catching up solo: Simon refused to return to Downton. So on Sunday night I'll tune in with an alone-time dinner. That's what I call a meal I'd never make for anyone else but me: simple food you'd be embarrassed to serve — even to your judgement-free partner — on account of it not approximating what most of us think of as dinner. For me, this is a green salad with

thin slices of raw, red onion, some tangy goat cheese and a lemon dressing served alongside a big fat piece of baguette with butter and a crisp, dry white wine.

I already know how I want Downton to end. Imagine we flash forward to today when tour groups are being lead through the seemingly endless rooms by the current owners. They make their money by opening up the home; is a bit of meta realism considering this is how most of England's great country estates survive today — including Highclere Castle which doubles as Downton. A little boy on the tour notices a photo on the wall of Lady Mary. "What happened to her?" he will ask. The new Lord will explain, and so on so forth, until the sepia-toned portraits of a vanished era have yielded lives fully lived. "All life is a series of problems which we must try and solve, first one and then the next and then the next," as the Dowager said, "until at last we die."

But I'm not holding my breath.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

DO A 'W' TAKE

After six seasons, people get it: The name is Downton Abbey. Not 'Downtown' Abbey. So why not a less risky title for the series? Julian Fellowes explains:

"I have always been rather an admirer of my great-grandfather, Professor John Wrightson, 1840-1916, who was an experimental agriculturalist."

"His eldest brother, Sir Thomas Wrightson, Bart., of Neasham Hall in Yorkshire, had done great things in the world of steel and their aunt was married to Lord Armstrong, the British Krupp of armaments, but John was more interested in farming."

"He had an estate in Wiltshire called Charford Manor and I thought of calling the series 'Charford Abbey,' but we decided it was too near Cranford, and so we settled on 'Downton' after Downton College of Agriculture which Wrightson founded in 1880 and which, for a quarter of a century, was at the forefront of agricultural innovation."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OUT OF CHARACTER

After Downton Abbey: Some killer new roles for the cast

What's happening to certain Downton Abbey stars is downright criminal.

Joanne Froggatt, pictured at right, the TV drama's vulnerable Anna Bates, is morphing into a 19th-century serial killer in PBS' Dark Angel. **Michelle Dockery**, seen below, who plays coolly elegant Lady Mary in Downton, is a sleazy American ex-convict in TNT's Good Behavior. And **Kevin Doyle**, the good-hearted Mr. Molesley, is a bad-hearted police detective in Netflix's Happy Valley.

The end of PBS's Downton Abbey after six seasons means new career paths for its stars, with both the upstairs and downstairs crew embracing change-of-pace roles — although devoted viewers may want to enshrine them forever as their beloved characters.

"Anybody who's watched and loved Downton is going to remember these characters for the rest of their lives," said



executive producer Gareth Neame. But cast members "can't put a pin in their career and say that's it."

British actors are especially keen on variety and like "to move away from things they've been previously successful with," Neame said.

Froggatt said change is part of acting's allure.

"After playing a role that you've loved playing for years, there is a certain part of you that goes, 'I fancy doing something a bit different,'" she said.

After Sunday's Downton Abbey finale, here's where to find its former gentry and servants:

Hugh Bonneville (Lord Grantham): Possibly the actor staying closest to his Downton pedigree, he plays Lord Louis Mountbatten in the Indian independence movie Viceroy's House.

Laura Carmichael (Lady Edith): Takes on a sibling role again in the 1940s history-based romance, A United

Kingdom, introducing her sister to her future husband, an African prince.

Brendan Coyle (John Bates): Plays English politician Augustine Birrell in the historical Irish film drama The Rising. Also in the romantic movie Me Before You, based on the novel by Jojo Moyes.

Elizabeth McGovern (Lady Cora): Writing and recording her fourth album with the band Sadie and the Hotheads. In April, starting rehearsals at the National Theatre in London for Sunset at the Villa Thalia.

Allen Leech (Tom Branson), pictured above: In the film Hunter's Prayer, based on Kevin Wignall's novel For the Dogs, Leech plays the former boss of a hired assassin whose assignment goes awry.

Penelope Wilton (Isobel Crawley): As lonely wife Pauline in the upcoming British TV series Brief Encounters, set in the 1980s, Wilton is one of four women whose lives are changed when they start selling exotic lingerie at house parties. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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ATLANTIC CANADA

Newfoundland's Iceberg Alley is full of great white wonder

Nature's frozen carvings drift through Iceberg Alley each spring and summer but early arrivals near Newfoundland's eastern shores have already lit up social media.

Eric Abbott did a double take in mid-January when he first saw a giant slab off Elliston, N.L. Since then, his photos of it and another water-sculpted berg off the pretty coastal town of Bonavista have drawn admirers from around the province and beyond.

"Most of the time I've seen them in March or April," he said in an interview. "There's people saying 'Eric, you think they'll be there in March month?' I say: 'My darling, the one in Elliston is grounded, it's only shifting back and forth. I allow it'll be there in August.'"

Many Newfoundlanders who posted photos of an iceberg spotted in mid-February off Signal Hill in St. John's said it's the earliest they

can remember big ice showing up.

Byron Briggs, superintendent of Atlantic region ice operations for the Canadian Coast Guard, said it's not unusual to have icebergs off Newfoundland's east coast this time of year.

"The difference being this time, some of them are close enough to shore for people to see. In 2014 there were definitely more bergs than there are now, but most of them were about 100 miles off."

Only ships out to sea would have caught a glimpse, Briggs said in an interview. Icebergs have to be within about 20 kilometres of shore to be visible from land, he added.

Gabrielle McGrath, commander of the United States Coast Guard International Ice Patrol, has

done recent surveillance flights over the region. The patrol was formed after the Titanic disaster in 1912, and works with Canadian partners to track icebergs in North Atlantic shipping lanes.

More than 20 bergs have so far been spotted in those lanes and many more originating

from Greenland glaciers are heading south, McGrath said in an interview.

"It's hard to give a prediction exactly, but I think there is a potential to have a decent amount of icebergs this year."

McGrath said an interesting weather pattern of cold and warm spells combined with storm systems help explain a few things. "Some of the bergs have been pushed onshore maybe a little earlier than they would in the past."

Icebergs photographed close to Newfoundland and Labrador coastlines in past years have reached 45 metres in



An iceberg near Bonavista, N.L. on Feb. 13. THE CANADIAN PRESS

height while long, flat tabular giants have been estimated at five kilometres in length or more. Waves mould them into spectacular shapes that resemble cathedrals, pyramids and glass archways streaked

with blue — and sometimes running with waterfalls. They are believed to be at least 12,000-year-old specimens of pure water.

Cecil Stockley, owner and operator of Iceberg Man tours in Twillingate on Newfoundland's northeast coast, takes groups out starting in May. In recent years he has hosted visitors from across North and Central America and as far away as Russia, China and Japan. "They come looking for icebergs," he said.

To avoid disappointment, Stockley urges tourists to check in with local operators before they make the trip.

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For tips on travel to Newfoundland and Labrador go to newfoundlandlabrador.com

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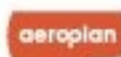
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Can't bear to clash with the carpet? Airbnb has an apartment for that. For fashionistas who are sticklers for coordination, Airbnb has rounded up a list of fabulous rentals that match designer decor with fashion weeks around the globe. **AFF**



Pretty in plaid

To go with a flowey, vichy-checked dress from the Victoria Beckham 2016 spring/summer collection, there's a loft in Bangkok where a black and white checkered carpet offsets an industrial, slate grey loft.



Bohemian like you

Is your style more Bohemian princess, à la Manish Arora's spring/summer collection? When in the south of France, look up a gypsy caravan decked out in unapologetically bold turquoises, bright fuschias and shabby chic patterns that match the boho chic ethos.



Stripes and stripes forever

But if you're more of a minimalist, à la Alice and Olivia's black and white-striped pant suit, there's an Osaka rental that will match the outfit perfectly, with its stark monochromatic décor: striped walls, zebra head, clean and minimal lines.

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TIPS

How to save a bundle on spring break vacation

This year, spring break will be a tricky affair for some, with the school break at some schools coinciding with an early Easter weekend. But travel experts have a few insider tips on how to save a few bucks for your winter getaway.

According to analysts at flight tracker Hopper, the best days to book a flight are Monday to Wednesdays, when flyers can save up to 25 per cent on their airfare, compared to flights scheduled for Thursday to Saturdays.

And though tempting, budget-conscious travellers are advised to forget Friday departures, which are the most expensive.

Here are a few other tips:

Spring break shoulder

If you can, try booking a trip in early March or late April to avoid the most expensive times to travel.

March Breaks that spill over to Easter are, predictably, the most expensive, posting a 45 per cent premium. The week of March 23, and April 6 are the second and third most expensive weeks.

Book now

The longer you wait, the more expensive the flight will be.

How much more? Booking less than two weeks in advance adds 33 per cent to the ticket price. Booking within three days? That will cost you 66 per cent more.

Monitor prices

In addition to the Hopper app which predicts drops in airfare,

other flight tracking apps and sites include Airfare Watchdog, Skyscanner, Momondo and Google Flights.

It may also be worth signing up for alerts to low-budget airlines such as JetBlue, EasyJet, AirAsia, Ryanair, and the newest players on the block, Norwegian Air and WOW Air, which have been selling transatlantic one-way airmiles for as little as \$99 U.S. *AFP*



Keeping a few tips in mind will help you save and have fun over spring break. *ISTOCK*

TRAVEL NOTES OUTSIDER ART, CAMPER VANS, CACTUS LEAGUE

Outsider art museum opens in The Netherlands

A museum of outsider art is opening March 17 as part of the Hermitage Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Outsider art is art created by self-taught artists, unknowns and others outside the art establishment. It is also variously referred to as folk art, art brut and raw art. The new venture is a project of the Het Dolhuys in Haarlem, a museum of psychiatry, in partnership with other organizations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Hermitage Amsterdam will feature a museum of outsider art. *ISTOCK*

Company rents out VW campers

Planning a road trip in a camper? Consider a set of old-school wheels. A Seattle-based company, Peace Vans Rentals, has fully restored Volkswagen camper vans, all Westfalia models built between 1987 and 1991. They sleep up to four adults and come with a built-in stove, sink and storage space. Included with the rental are cookware, utensils and headlamps, and a French press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Peace Van Rentals has restored old-school campers. *HANDOUT*

Behold the Cactus League games

Arizona is getting ready for spring training season. Fifteen Major League Baseball teams play around the Phoenix metropolitan area as part of what's called the Cactus League. Spring training in Arizona has been a tradition since the 1940s when the Cleveland Indians and the New York Giants were the only teams that practiced there. The games run through April 2 in advance of MLB's opening day, April 3.

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Yu Darvish at training. *FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM*

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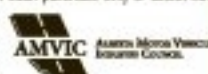
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"Yeah, I don't care": LeBron James' reaction to those who are upset about his recent visit with Dwyane Wade in Miami



Mike McEwen
MICHAEL BURNS/CURLING CANADA

CURLING

Field stacked for Brier

Winnipeg skip Mike McEwen picked a tough year to make his long-awaited Tim Hortons Brier debut.

The field is stacked for the upcoming Canadian men's curling championship at TD Place in Ottawa. Reigning Olympic champion Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario, two-time Brier champ Kevin Koe of Alberta, top-ranked Brad Gushue of Newfoundland and Labrador and four-time world champion Glenn Howard of Ontario are some of the headliners.

Other contenders include defending champion Pat Simmons and his Team Canada rink along with B.C.'s Jim Cotter, Quebec's Jean-Michel Menard and Saskatchewan's Steve Laycock.

"There is probably six, seven or eight teams that have a legitimate shot," McEwen said.

Prince Edward Island's Adam Casey and New Brunswick's Mike Kennedy have also secured berths in the main draw, which begins Saturday afternoon at the 10,000-seat venue. The 12th and final spot goes to the winner of a qualification round-robin between Nova Scotia's Jamie Murphy, Bob Smallwood of the Yukon, Jamie Koe of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut's Wade Kingdon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ THE PRIZE

The gold medallist will represent Canada at the April 2-10 world men's curling championship in Basel, Switzerland. Simmons won bronze at last year's world playdowns in Halifax.

Oilers rough up Flyers

NHL

Talbot earns shutout in team's third straight win

Taylor Hall, Nail Yakupov, Patrick Maroon and Lauri Korpikoski all scored, and Cam Talbot made 35 saves to lead Edmonton to its third straight victory, 4-0 over the Philadelphia Flyers on Thursday night.

Talbot, in his ninth straight start, was at his best in the first two periods on his way to his second shutout of the season and 10th of his career.

THURSDAY In Philly

4	0
OILERS	FLYERS

Top rookie Connor McDavid had an assist in his first game versus the Flyers since being injured against them in Philadelphia's 4-2 win at Edmonton on Nov. 3. The 2015 No. 1 overall pick missed 37 games after breaking his clavicle when he was ridden hard into the boards by Philadelphia's Brandon Manning, who watched from the press box as a healthy scratch.

The loss was a blow to Philadelphia's playoff chances. The Flyers entered play three games behind Pittsburgh, which beat the New York Ran-



Zack Kassian of the Oilers gets an elbow up on the Flyers' Radko Gudas on Thursday night. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

gers on Thursday night, for the Eastern Conference's final playoff spot.

They had won their previous three games on a six-game homestand that continues Saturday against Columbus.

McDavid showed off his speed when he blew past defenceman Evgeny Medvedev to set up Edmonton's opening

goal with 8:40 left in the first period. McDavid got in alone on goal and Yakupov poked home the rebound after Michal Neuvirth made the initial stop on McDavid.

McDavid, the NHL's rookie of the month for February, has 20 points in his last 16 games.

Philadelphia dominated the second period everywhere but

the scoreboard.

Edmonton took advantage of a miscommunication between Flyers defencemen Shayne Gostisbehere and Andrew MacDonald at Philadelphia's blue line. Hall pounced on the puck and got ahead of Gostisbehere, eventually beating Neuvirth on a breakaway to give Edmonton a two-goal lead with 5:38 left in

the period. It was Hall's team-leading 21st goal.

And the Oilers went up 3-0 a little under two minutes later when Maroon notched his fifth goal of the season in his debut with Edmonton after being traded earlier this week from Anaheim for Martin Gernat and a fourth-round draft pick.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB SPRING TRAINING

Floyd solid as Jays get win over Pirates

Finally healthy after a three-year battle with injuries, right-hander Gavin Floyd turned in a solid start for the Toronto Blue Jays on Thursday in a 10-8 win against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Justin Smoak hit a towering solo home run for the Blue Jays.

Floyd worked two innings and gave up one run on two hits. He walked one and struck out two.

Floyd, 33, had Tommy John surgery in 2013. He has since twice snapped a bone in his elbow. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gavin Floyd has pitched a total of 21 games in the majors over the past three seasons. LEON HALIP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

A-Rod starts spring with homer, Phils beat Yanks

Alex Rodriguez hit a two-run homer on the second pitch of his 2016 spring training debut Thursday as the New York Yankees lost 13-4 to a Philadelphia Phillies' split squad.

Carlos Beltran had a one-out single in the first, and A-Rod homered on a 1-0 pitch from Adam Morgan.

"It was surprising," Rodriguez said. "That was the last thing (I expected)."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Flames take over last place in West

Johan Larsson scored the go-ahead goal with 9:31 left and Marcus Foligno had a goal and two assists in the Buffalo Sabres' 6-3 win over the Calgary Flames on Thursday night.

The loss extended the Flames' skid to 0-6-1 and dropped them into last place in the Western Conference.

Jack Eichel, Nicolas Deslauriers, Rasmus Ristolainen and Evander Kane, with an empty-netter, also scored in helping Buffalo extend its home domin-

THURSDAY In Buffalo

6	3
SABRES	FLAMES

ance over Calgary. The Sabres improved to 10-0-2 in their past 12 home games against the Flames.

Sean Monahan, Dougie Hamilton and Mikael Backlund scored for the Flames.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mickelson figures out new-look Doral

GOLF

American star is third and seeking first win since 2013

Phil Mickelson's scores from Doral over the past two years clearly suggested that the redesigned Blue Monster wasn't completely to his liking.

He had to re-learn a course that he played for more than 20 years, and indicated Thursday that he finally has the new Doral figured out.

Mickelson shot a 5-under 67 on Thursday in the opening round of the Cadillac Championship, the first World Golf Championships event of the year. Seeking his first win since the British Open in 2013, Mickelson made seven birdies and finished the day one shot back of leaders Scott Piercy and Marcus Fraser.

"There is a bit of a learning

curve on some of the contours and where you have to go and where you want to go and the best place to be," Mickelson said.

Fraser had seven birdies before his lone bogey of the day, and Piercy also got to 7 under at one point before settling for his 66. Mickelson made bogey only twice, immediately erasing each with a birdie on the following hole, and the 67 was nearly six full shots better than his average round score at Doral in his previous two visits.

His best round on the Blue Monster in 2014 was a 69, and his low score at Doral last year was 71. "It was a good day," said Mickelson, who feigned disbelief when his chip on the par-5 8th — his 17th of the day — stopped inches from the hole, leaving him a tap-in birdie. "I hit a lot of good shots, made some good putts and just drove it well, enjoyed the day." Danny Willett, Adam Scott, Jason Dufner and Charley Hoffman were all two shots back of Piercy, each carding 68s.

“There is a bit of a learning curve on some of the contours.”

Phil Mickelson on the redesigned Doral course

World No. 1 Jordan Spieth was in a group another shot back, three off the pace at 3 under, and said that even on a relatively calm day by Doral weather standards, it felt like a grind.

"It always is here," Spieth said. "And this would be a day that should play about as easy as it possibly can with just a 5- to 10-mile-an-hour breeze. The standard wind here I think. Still, the scores aren't extremely low."

Spieth was in a featured group, with world No. 2 Jason Day and No. 3 Rory McIlroy with him. McIlroy shot 1 under, Day finished at even par. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Phil Mickelson jokes with fans as he walks onto the ninth hole during the first round of the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship. MIKE EHLMANN/GETTY IMAGES

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SOCCER

Barca rout Rayo to break La Liga record

Lionel Messi scored a hat trick as Barcelona defeated nine-man Rayo Vallecano 5-1 to become the first Spanish club to play 35 consecutive matches without a loss, breaking Real Madrid's record of nearly three decades ago.

Midfielder Ivan Rakitic opened the scoring, Messi added the second, third and fourth goals, and Arda Turan topped it off late. Rayo had two players sent off with straight red

cards, Diego Llorente when they were 2-0 behind, and Manuel Iturra at 3-1 down. It was Barcelona's 10th win in a row in the Spanish league, keeping it eight points ahead of second-place Atletico Madrid, which defeated Real Sociedad 3-0 on Tuesday.

Real Madrid remain 12 points behind after its 3-1 win over bottom club Levante on Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

35

Number of consecutive matches the Catalan giants have gone without a loss.

IN BRIEF

Hodgson says Rooney a Euro 2016 shoo-in if fit

According to England coach Roy Hodgson, Wayne Rooney is guaranteed to make the England squad for the European Championship if he recovers in time from his right knee injury.

Speaking at a UEFA coaches' workshop in Paris, Hodgson said he won't judge his captain on his form when picking his 23-man list. Manchester United striker Rooney injured the ligaments in his knee last month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PLAY Yesterday's Answers

from your daily crossword and Sudoku

9	6	3	7	4	1	5	2	8
2	8	4	5	9	6	3	1	7
5	1	7	8	2	3	9	4	6
3	7	9	1	8	4	2	6	5
6	4	2	3	7	5	1	8	9
8	5	1	9	6	2	4	7	3
7	2	8	4	5	9	6	3	1
1	9	6	2	3	7	8	5	4
4	3	5	6	1	8	7	9	2

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RECIPE Protein Pancakes with Cottage Cheese



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



If you love breakfast for dinner (it's our favourite) then prepare to have your mind blown. These pancakes deliver, wait for it, a nice dose of protein thank you to the addition of cottage cheese. Also, did we mention they are pancakes?

Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 30 minutes

Makes 6 pancakes

Ingredients

- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp fine sea salt
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 3/4 cup low-fat milk
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil

• Butter for pan

Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, stir together the flour, baking soda, sea salt and cinnamon.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, cottage cheese, milk and oil.
3. Add the egg mixture to the flour and whisk until just combined.
4. Heat a large skillet or griddle over medium high heat and then toss in a pat of butter. Working in batches, form each pancake by pouring about 1/4 cup of batter into the pan. Cook pancakes until they are golden brown and bubbles break on the surface; then flip. Allow to cook through, about another minute. Serve with either maple syrup or a spoonful of Greek yogurt and honey.

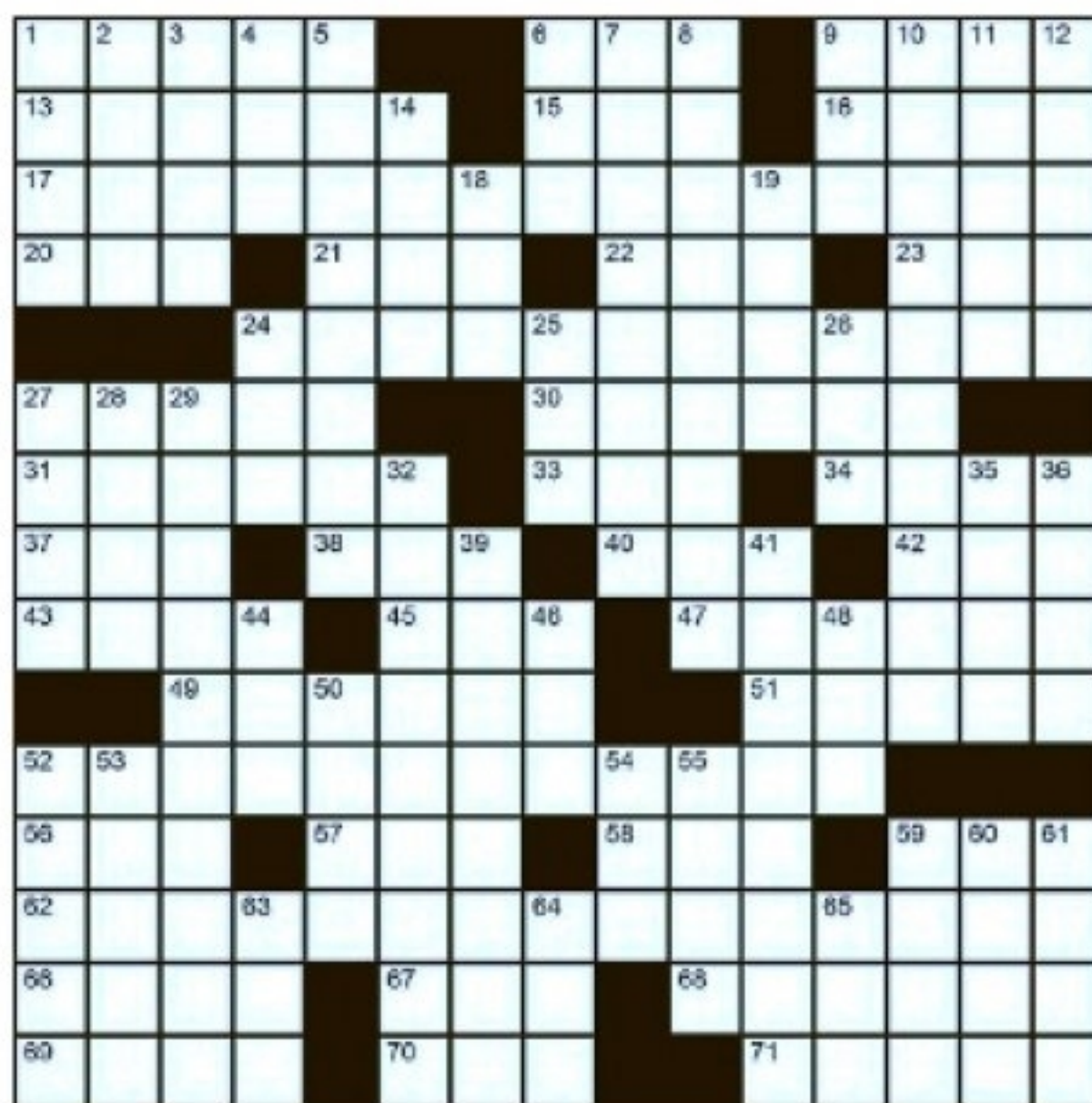
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. A. ___ & Co. Productions (Company-with-a-Canadian-co-founder behind the show at #52-Across)
6. Soul: French
9. Disapproves
13. Couch potato's dinner table: 2 wds.
15. Mr. Brooks
16. Juice berry
17. Canadian Forces... Meritorious Service Cross and General Campaign Star: 2 wds.
20. Poetic contraction
21. Sing-y syllable
22. Vintage record label
23. "___ Mir Bist Du Schon" by The Andrews Sisters
24. Popular palettes in interior decor now: 2 wds.
27. Gladiator's 553
30. RSVP 'yes'
31. Country singer Lee Ann
33. Avril's Sk8er's gender
34. Window part
37. Bon ___ (High society)
38. Kit ___
40. 'Proto' suffix (Amoebae, and kin)
42. Compete
43. Predicament
45. Wee weekday
47. LA Dodgers division: acr. + wd.
49. ___ and tribulations
51. Ms. Flynn Boyle's
52. As per #1-Across...



Culinary reality show for Chef Gordon Ramsay: 2 wds.
56. 'Human' suffix
57. European peak
58. Demure
59. Trendy
62. Really cold temperature: 3 wds.

66. Spa service, ___-pedi
67. Position
68. Savoured
69. Belonging to London's wee country
70. ER pros
71. Alison Moyet's "Don't Go" duo

DOWN

1. Bank ___
2. Ancient 1007
3. "___ cost ya!"
4. Prefix to 'angle'
5. Magical feat for Wayne Gretzky: 2 wds.
6. Ms. Poehler

7. Television doctor: 2 wds.
8. Public speaking strength
9. Universal ideal
10. One admiring a coral reef at great depth: 2 wds.
11. R.U.R. playwright

Mr. Capek
12. Oui ouis ...in Barcelona: 2 wds.
14. Lively
18. Mr. Liotta
19. Mr. Berkus
24. Angelina Jolie role
25. Capture
26. Ward workers, wee-ly
27. Tom Bergeron hosts it [acronym]
28. Ribbon bow part
29. "Hey, that's the truth!": 3 wds.
32. 'Of Ghosts and Gods' metal band from Montreal
35. Ms. Kudrow
36. Allows
39. Where a gardener might plant bulbs: 2 wds.
41. Back street
44. Li'l old MTV show
46. Ballpark fig.
48. Pallid
50. Time ___ a premium
52. Player's call in blackjack: 2 wds.
53. Mr. Hawke
54. Nero's 250
55. Laugh-a-minute
59. "Eraser" Canadian noise/punk band
60. Nabisco's famous treat
61. Extinct bird of Mauritius
63. '___' for Rimouski
64. Sci-Fi movie extras
65. Ms. Gabor, for short

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20

An offer may seem attractive but don't commit yourself too quickly. Consider the pros and cons before deciding whether or not it is the right move for you. Opportunities are like buses — there will always be another.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

Be on your guard when dealing with people one-to-one. You may not be the sort who gives your trust too easily but some people can be very persuasive. Don't let them sway you.

Gemini May 22 - June 21

Why are you so defensive? Every time someone says something you take it as a personal slight. You're overreacting but this phase won't last long. You'll forget about it soon.

Cancer June 22 - July 23

You are tired from the constant running around you've been doing but you're also pleased by the progress you've made. You'll make more progress today if you slow down and concentrate on one specific aim.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

Some of the changes taking place may not be to your liking but there is nothing you can do about them. You know that, sooner or later, everything works out for the best.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You won't let anyone coerce you into doing things you don't approve of. Now extend your protection to those who cannot look after themselves. Take them under your wing.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Be on your toes where anything of a financial nature is concerned. There is little doubt you will succeed but you will also attract people who think they can get rich at your expense.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You seem to be constantly on the go, no doubt due to Mars, planet of ego and energy, in your birth sign. But even a Scorpio has limits, so slow down and focus on essentials.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Mistakes are a fact of life but if you find yourself making the same mistake over and over you can be sure that something's wrong. The world won't change for you, so you must change in response to the world.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Go all out to make a good impression on those you live and work with today. Creatively and romantically this is a great time for you and if you believe that you deserve to be lucky and loved then you will be.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If you find it hard to live within your means that is a sign you're doing too many things for too many people — and paying too much for the privilege. How many of your "friends" really care for you? Be ruthless today.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

No matter how tough the challenge, you will pass with flying colours. You are endowed with the kind of self-belief that can move mountains.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

4			3	8				
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